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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 DHAKA 000248

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SUBJECT: GTIP INCLE PROPOSAL

REF: 04 SECSTATE 248000

[1](#). Embassy Dhaka is pleased to propose the following project:

Title: CAPACITY BUILDING OF DISTRICT POLICE ANTI-TRAFFICKING
MONITORING CELLS TO MANAGE AN EFFECTIVE DATABASE AND COMBAT
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Potential Partner: IOM

Project Duration: 2 years

Objectives

Increase the capacity of District Anti-Trafficking Monitoring
Cells through training staff members on how to collect,
store, and manage reliable data, protect victims and
witnesses of human trafficking, and work with prosecutors for
effective prosecution of human traffickers.

Activities

-- General concepts of trafficking and the trafficking
situation in Bangladesh
-- Data collection, storage, and analysis
-- Trafficking laws & responsibilities
-- Investigation and interrogation methods
-- Evidence collection and chain of custody handling
-- Victim and witness protection options
-- Community outreach techniques
-- Study/observational trip
-- Develop training curriculum for Police Academy based on
lessons learned from field work
-- Train the trainers in new curriculum, including other Law
Enforcement Agencies such as the Bangladesh Rifle (BDR)
and Immigration Officials.

Sustainability

The primary objective is to enhance the capacity of local law
enforcement officials by enriching their knowledge of the
trafficking paradigm and providing them with the necessary
skills to better combat human trafficking of women and
children in Bangladesh. Reaching the on-the-ground staff is
key to strengthening their ability to identify trafficking,
properly document and collect evidence of trafficking and
ultimately prosecute the traffickers. However,
sustainability of these efforts will only occur if these
training modules are formalized and included in the Police
Academy,s and other Law Enforcement Agencies' training
curriculums. This project will do that. Additionally, it is
proposed that a training of trainers be carried out to ensure
that the knowledge and skills developed by this initiative
will be sustained for future use.

IOM has had substantial experience throughout the region and
in Bangladesh working with law enforcement officials. They
have already carried out a needs assessment and drafted
training materials in conjunction with representatives from
different law enforcement agencies in country.

Justification

After much discussion amongst various anti-trafficking
stakeholders within Bangladesh it is clear one of the most
pressing needs is reliable data regarding trafficking in
Bangladesh. Because of the clandestine nature of human
trafficking, accurate data is difficult to collect and only
guess estimates can be determined based on newspaper reports
or from information gathered from NGO,s.

Data on trafficking statistics is just beginning to be
compiled nationwide and made available through a centralized
police monitoring cell. This data is limited, however,
since the cell just began operations June 2004. Likewise,
district level cells, 64 in total nationwide, were also
established at that time in response to Bangladesh
temporarily being placed on the Tier III list. The
thoroughness and reliability of this data collected is also
questionable since the main collectors of data, police in the
district level monitoring cells, have no formal training on

collection and storage of data or specialized training regarding trafficking at all.

Each district cell is responsible for sending data from their districts regarding cases under trial, cases disposed and what their outcomes were, victim recovery, and where victims are rehabilitated to on a daily basis to the central Police Monitoring Cell at police headquarters. Cells are also suppose to ensure prosecution of cases filed for trafficking, that proper witnesses show up to court for the appropriate trial, and monitor court cases related to trafficking.

The formation of the district level cells has been a step in the right direction but much remains to be done to effectively combat trafficking. Police and staff at the district level cells have received no formal training regarding trafficking in persons therefore they do not fully understand the scope of the trafficking problem in Bangladesh, the nature of trafficking operations, techniques in evidence collection for trafficking cases, procedural aspects for prosecuting traffickers, or proper methods for protecting the rights of survivors. This is especially alarming since the police at the district level cells are the first layer of law enforcement and contact with the legal system for many victims or perpetrators.

Since the BDG created the monitoring cell in response to their Tier III ranking, and in accordance with the action plan provided by the Department, post sees a need to support and encourage the constructive steps they have taken. Providing training and support to increase the capacity of district level monitoring cells will give positive reinforcement to government actions and equip the cells to function as we suggested. To fully and adequately staff, equip and fund the police monitoring cell is a fundamental component under the action plan provided to the Government. Better prepared and trained law enforcement officials should lead to greater arrests of traffickers, increased rescue of victims and ultimately higher conviction rates of traffickers; all points highlighted in the anti-trafficking action plan submitted to the BDG.

Furthermore, providing training and resources to build an effective database at the point where data is first collected will ensure a quality database that is centrally located and accessible. Another important gap in the current anti-trafficking infrastructure in Bangladesh is lack of attention to victim recovery and rehabilitation. The police would like to start a comprehensive database of returned victims, and having the right IT tools and training for effective databases will equip them to create new databases. This feeds directly into some of the long-term approaches outlined in the BDG action plan of (1) developing a system for tracking, compiling and disseminating TIP-related law enforcement information and statistics, particularly data on investigations, arrests, prosecutions and convictions and (2) track and provide information on the number of victims assisted and the types of assistance they receive.

Performance Indicators

A performance monitoring and evaluation plan will be submitted by the recipient (IOM) once funding has been approved. The critical indicator is an increase in the number and percentage of successful investigations, prosecutions and convictions. However, performance indicators could include the following examples:

- No. of data entered per month and sent to Police HQs from each district.
- No. of victims recovered
- No. of victims rehabilitated
- No. of cases under trial
- No. of prosecution cases filed for trafficking
- No. of staff trained on basic Anti-trafficking issues.
- No. of staff trained for victims handling/psycho-social protection
- Improvement by personnel receiving the training from pre-test to post-test results
- Number of trainers trained

Evaluation Plan

Ultimate progress will measured by the institutionalization by the Police Academy of the anti-trafficking capacity building courses. This includes formal adoption of the training curriculum and training of trainers. Interim measures during the two-year implementation of the project could include the number of participants trained, their improvement on pre and post training tests and the annual percentage increase in traffickers arrested and convicted. As mentioned above the implementer will be required to provide a project performance monitoring plan once funding is awarded.

Follow-up will be done by the Home Ministry, who has overall responsibility for the police force and the Police Command itself. The goal will be to have inserted anti-trafficking training and investigative techniques into on-going, standard police and law enforcement training.

The implementation and advancement of the goals of this project should be reviewed on a semi-annual basis.

Budget

The total estimated cost for this project is \$ 290,000 over a two year period. This can be summarized in the following general budget line item estimates:

- 1. Implementer staff/management: \$75,000
- 2. Consultants: \$35,000
- 3. Training Events: 40,000
- 4. Materials, Manuals--Development and Production: \$35,000
- 5. Commodities (Computers/software/office equipit, etc.) \$90,000
- 6. Study tour/observational trip \$15,000

Type and Amount of Host Government Contribution

Host country contribution is expected to be approximately 25% the cost of this project or about \$70,000, measured by in-kind contributions of staff time, logistical support, rent and use of training facilities (both at the police academy and off-site) and materials.

Embassy POC is Poloff Charlene Wang

END TEXT.

2. Please advise.
THOMAS